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margin of small, enclosed seas to the hem of the world ocean; from small, naturally defined territories to large, elastic areas; from mere periphery to a combination of periphery and centre, commanding the freedom of the sea and the abundant resources of a large hinterland.

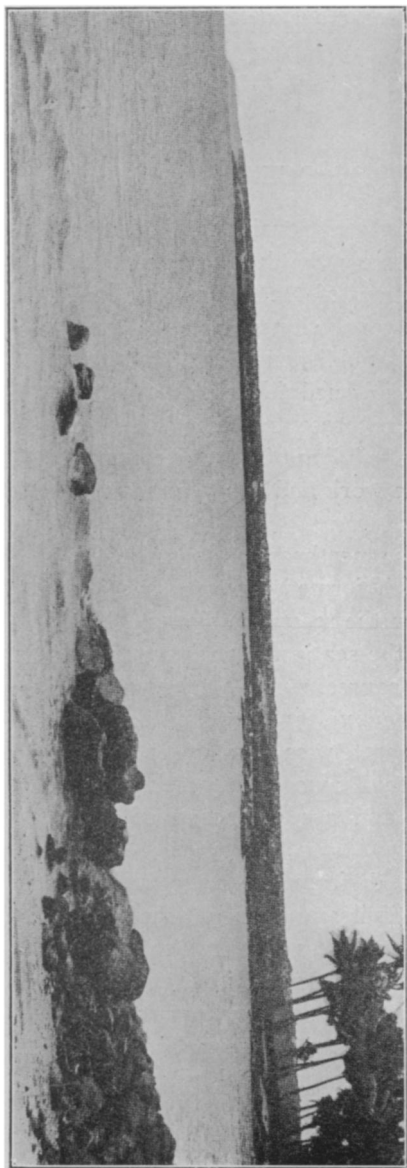
LAVA FLOWING INTO THE OCEAN.

After the volcanic outbreak of 1905-06 in Savaii Island of the Samoan group the Linnean Society of New South Wales gave to Mr. H. I. Jensen, Linnean Macleay Fellow of the Society in Geology, leave of absence to carry out investigations of these latest phenomena on the island. His report is published in the *Proceedings* of the Society for 1906 (No. 124, issued March 28, 1907). Some facts from Mr. Jensen's report are presented here, together with two of his photographs showing the building of a lava peninsula in the ocean (1) in the early stage of the work and (2) a few weeks later.

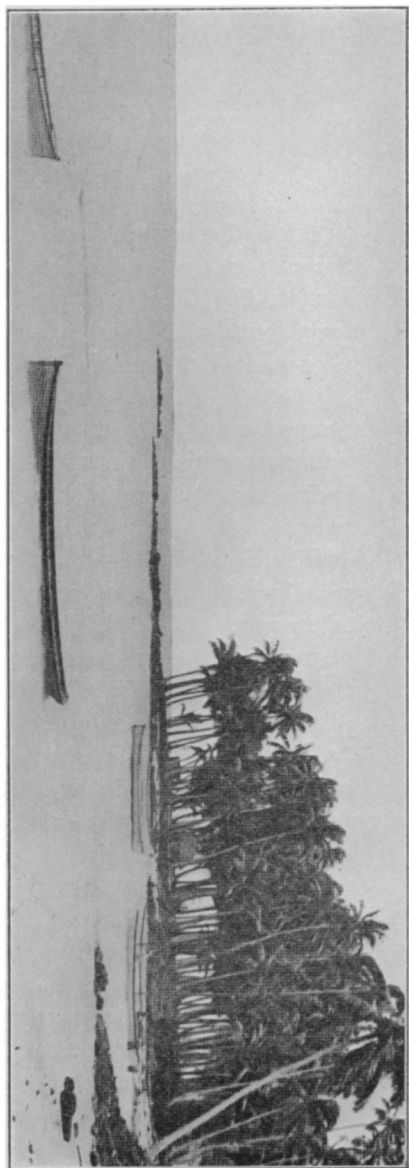
The flow of 1905-06 occurred in the northeastern part of the island and came from a new crater which formed a couple of miles to the north of Mt. Pule (crater lake) on the mountain slopes. The new crater is seven or eight miles from the sea in the shortest direction, but the lava, following a circuitous course, runs an even greater distance before reaching the sea. The new volcano attained an altitude of 2,000 feet. South and east of its crater are remnants of older craters, and north of it are a couple of small cones, about a thousand feet high, which have perfect craters and are composed of lava cinders.

The quantity of lava which emerged from the new volcano covered an area of about thirty square miles and flowed from the vent in a northeasterly direction. The thickness of this lava varies greatly, depending on the proximity to the volcano and the previous configuration of the country. Originally a deep valley reached almost to the present site of the active cone. The earlier flows followed this valley, and in it, for a distance of several miles, there is now a thickness of lava exceeding a thousand feet.

What was a deep valley only a few hundred feet above sea level now forms a huge bulging lava ridge above 1,500 feet high near the volcano and sloping gently towards the sea. This inclined lava plain was still rising when Mr. Jensen saw it, through the intercalation



LAVA PENINSULA, A FEW WEEKS LATER.



LAVA PENINSULA BEGINS BUILDING.

of new lava sheets under the cooler crust. The captain of the steamer *Maori*, who periodically visits the island, told Mr. Jensen that he could see an appreciable difference in the altitude of this ridge at each trip.

When Mr. Jensen was there most of the lava exuded at that time was moving to the sea, following definite lava tunnels beneath the cooled crust. The course of these tunnels could be traced by vent holes through which steam and sulphurous gases were rising. Where the lava was flowing into the sea there seemed to be miniature volcanoes due to explosions that occurred about every two minutes. The cause of these explosions seemed to be that as the lava poured into the ocean a considerable amount of water was included in and beneath it. This water was converted into steam, and when the steam pressure became great enough an explosion took place. The water entered the sea along a width of several miles, so that a continuous wall of steam lined the coast. The sea was in ebullition for several hundred yards out. Enormous quantities of coral and fishes were killed. Lava has filled the water area between the shore and the coral reef and has also built a peninsula several miles in length.

It is impossible to estimate the weight of the lava, but it is certain that its volume exceeds a cubic mile and that three cubic miles may not be too high an estimate. The flow over a considerable area exceeds 1,000 feet in thickness. Over the coastal area from Saleaula to Satapatu and inland three or four miles its thickness varies from twenty to several hundred feet. Between Asuisui and Satapatu it has flowed into deep water and filled up the sea bottom to such an extent as to make the water greenish for nearly a mile out from the shore.

PRJEVALSKY'S HORSE.

The English translation of the account of this wild horse, written in Russian by Dr. W. Salensky, has recently appeared from the press of Hurst & Blackett, London. Some thirty years ago the Russian explorer Prjevalsky reported that he had discovered a new and quite distinct type of horse in the Gobi Desert, to the west of Mongolia. Most British naturalists did not regard the Prjevalsky horse as a valid species of the wild horse, some thinking it a kiang hybrid and others the offspring of escaped Mongol ponies.